

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the Official Action dated April 10, 2007. The above amendment and remarks to follow are intended to be fully responsive thereto.

The Examiner is thanked for the allowance of claims 4-10. The Examiner is further thanked for the allowability of claims 15-16 & 18-20 if rewritten in independent form. Claims 15 & 18 have so been amended and claims 15-16 & 18-20 are now believed to be in condition for allowance. No new matter has been added. No new issues have been raised.

The drawings were objected to for failing to show every feature of claim 12. In the interest to advance prosecution claim 12 has been cancelled rendering this objection moot. The cancellation of claim 12 also moots the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103.

Claim 1 was amended solely as to form to reintroduce the word "wherein" which had inadvertently been deleted in the previously amendment. Claims 8-9 have been amended to simply remove reference numerals. No new issues have been raised. No new matter has been entered.

Claims 1, 11, 13-14 & 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by E.P. 775,791 to Edwards. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Regarding the rejection to claim 1, contrary to the Examiner's assertion, Edwards EP '791 fails to disclose primary and secondary members mounted to pivot "about" a "fixed" pin. Moreover, the Examiner has improperly identified driving members 12 & 38 to each constitute two separate members of the claimed invention, namely a driving member and pin. This alone removes any possible rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102. More significantly, main locking lever 10 of Edwards does not and can not rotate about drive shaft 12. To the contrary, the two rotate together as a unit. The shafted interface between members 10 & 12 precludes any ability for the

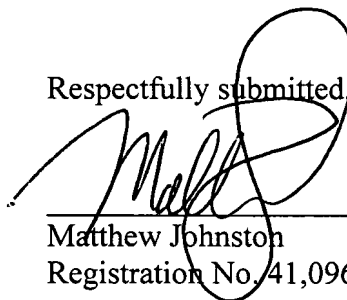
lever 10 to pivot "about" drive member 12. Moreover, Edwards teaches directly away from the drive members 12,38 being "fixed" as they must rotate to perform the intended driving function. Therefore, because levers 10 and 36 do not rotate "about" drive members 12/36 and further because neither drive members 12 or 38 are "fixed", any rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102 or 103 is improper.

Regarding claim 13, contrary to the Examiner's assertion the rod 42 is not directly pivotally connected at a fixed location to the lever 10. Rather pin 46 translates between two extreme locations of slot 44 before any relative pivoting and thus pivots at discrete locations and not at a fixed location as claimed. Thus any rejection of claim 13 under either 35 U.S.C. 102 or 103 is improper.

Regarding claim 14 Edwards falls to disclose rod 42 being displaceably connected to primary lever 36. The Examiner apparently misread the claim requiring a pivotally connection as recited in claim 13. Thus any rejection of claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. 102 or 103 is improper.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 4-11 & 13-20 define the invention over the prior art and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner believe further discussion regarding the above claim language would expedite prosecution, he is invited to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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